Post [illegible]

CIA Airliner Is Missing Over Laos

An Air America C-123 transport plane was missing over north Laos yesterday, according to the airline's office here.

Reports from Vientiane, capital of Laos, speculated that the plane had been shot down by Chinese anti-aircraft known to be deployed in parts of northern Laos.

Air America is an airline run by the Central Intelligence Agency. Its transports ferry material and men around Vietnam and Laos.

The reports from Laos by the French news agency, Agence France-Presse, said that there were four Americans, a Chinese and a Meo aboard and that the plane was 24 hours overdue at its destination.

The Chinese Communists have been building roads in northern Laos for several years and have deployed several battalions of antiaircraft to protect their roadworkers. A recent official U.S. estimate was that there were 14,000 Chinese in the area.